

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

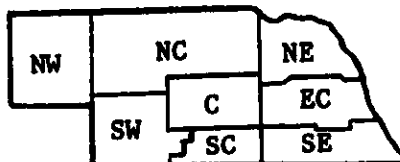
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Week Ending April 24, 1988

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Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
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WEATHER

The week started out mild but turned much colder at week's end. The western portion had heavy snow while the east had scattered thunder showers. Precipitation amounts ranged from around two inches in the Panhandle to less than a tenth of an inch in the extreme east. Average temperatures ranged from four to eight degrees below normal.

GENERAL

Cool, dry conditions prevailed across the State last week until moisture in the form of heavy snow and light rain occurred at week's end. The heavy snowfall was confined to the Panhandle and north central areas while little or no precipitation occurred throughout the remainder of the State. Despite this precipitation, producers continued to be concerned with low soil moisture levels in most areas. Row crop seedbed preparation and corn planting continued but at a slower pace as most producers were waiting for moisture and warmer soil temperatures. Other farm activities consisted of: finishing small grain seeding, fixing fence, working calves and cleaning winter lots. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6.0.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 71% short and 29% adequate. Subsoil moisture condition rated 32% short and 68% adequate. Last year, topsoil moisture rated 9% short, 83% adequate and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 74% adequate and 26% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 36% fair, 60% good and 4% excellent. A slight improvement in condition occurred due to the moisture received late in the week. Populations of wheat curl mites were found in the southwest portion of the Panhandle and could result in some streak mosaic problems. Some fields in the Panhandle and Central areas were being treated and approaching treatment levels for Russian wheat aphids. Four percent of the crop was in the joint stage.

Corn planting progressed slowly while most producers waited for moisture and warmer soil temperatures. Six percent of the crop was planted compared to 3% last year and average.

Oat seeding had progressed to 90% complete compared to 83% last year and 63% average. Dry soil conditions have slowed the emergence of spring-seeded small grains.

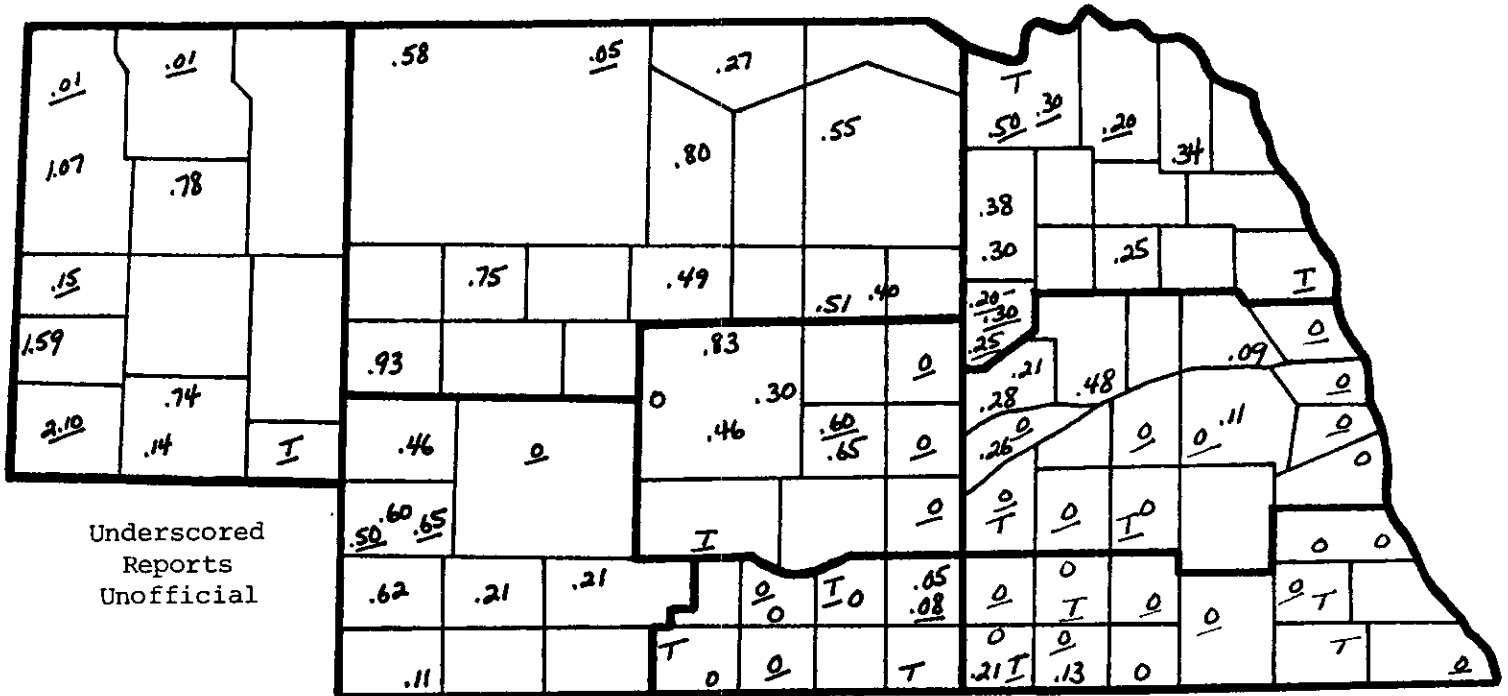
LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture feed supplies rated 21% short, 77% adequate and 2% surplus. Summer pastures continued to be slow greening up as the result of lack of moisture and cool temperatures. Some cattle continued to be turned out on summer pasture. Scouring problems were evident in young calves in the Panhandle and Southwest.

Precipitation, April 1 - April 22, 1988

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week86	.59	.25	.45	.16	.37	.01	.04
Total since April 188	1.85	1.54	1.99	1.34	1.57	1.01	1.79
Normal since April 1	1.22	1.54	1.76	1.75	1.98	1.29	1.54	1.98

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 1988



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1988

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	73	11	40	--	--
Scottsbluff	75	19	44	-5	2.07
Sidney	70	20	45	--	--
NC Ord	69	20	46	--	--
Valentine	71	15	41	-7	.87
NE Norfolk	73	24	45	-6	.30
Sioux City	72	22	45	-8	.36
CEN Grand Island	74	23	47	-6	.10
EC Lincoln	75	27	48	-6	T
Omaha	73	27	48	-5	.16
SW Imperial	72	21	47	--	.55
North Platte	72	22	46	-4	.65

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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